suits and colours, spice, drugs, pearls and other precious gems, together with carpets of divers kinds They write from the right side of the paper to the left like the Turks, contrary to our manner, but the} have not many books, much less libraries, amongst their best clerks They are ignorant in all kinds of liberal and learned sciences, except it be in certain things pertaining to horses' furniture and some kinds of carpeting and silk works wherein they excel Their buildings are for the most part made of brick, hardened in the sand, wherein they have very little furniture other than carpets spread upon their floors

Near unto a town called Backo in Persia there issueth out of the earth in the manner of a water-spring a certain kind of oil in great abundance, which they from all parts of the Persian dominions do fetch upon camels, kine and asses to burn in their lamps

From Persia Sir Anthony entered the dominions of the Emperor of Russia, having sailed for two months on the Caspian Sea , and after many weeks came at last to Musco, where they were sent for to come before the Emperor

By this time there was with their company a Portingal friar that had accompanied them from Persia, a lewd whoremongenng knave , which friar though he had been treated with great kindness alleged Sir Anthony to be but a man of mean parentage, that w as come as a spy through the country for purposes of his own good and not of Persia and Christendom as he pretended Whereupon Sir Anthony and his companions were for a space put in prison But being at last brought before the commissioners to be examined, the friar in terms tried to thwart Sir Anthony, whose blood already boiled with the

excess of his choler's heat, and unable to suppress it, he gave the fat friar such a sound box on the face that down he falls as if he had been struck with a thunderbolt After which event Sir Anthony was better used, but constrained to stay for six months in that place before he was given leave to depirt

Thence they passed towards St Nicholas to take shipping in mid May and being come to the seaside they there stayed for provision for their journey In which time they were divers times invited aboard English ships where they were royally banqueted at the Agent's charges and the merchants' From